

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A disk apparatus comprising:

a defect detection unit configured to detect a defect of a disk;

5 a setting unit configured to set an actual recording area, where information can actually be recorded, of all recording areas of the disk on the basis of a defect detection result by the defect detection unit; and

10 a recording unit configured to record user information in the actual recording area set by the setting unit.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the defect detection unit detects the defect for  
15 each predetermined area, and

the setting unit obtains recording performance for each predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection result by the defect detection unit, and sets an area which satisfies a predetermined recording  
20 performance level in all the recording areas of the disk as the actual recording area where information can actually be recorded.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the defect detection unit detects the defect for  
25 each predetermined area corresponding to a radial distance, and

the setting unit obtains recording performance for

each predetermined area on the basis of the defect  
detection result by the defect detection unit, and sets  
an area inside an innermost one of areas that do not  
satisfy the predetermined recording performance level  
5 in all the recording areas of the disk as the actual  
recording area where information can actually be  
recorded.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
the defect detection unit detects a first defect,  
10 which changes for every radial distance, for each  
predetermined area corresponding to a radial distance  
and detects a second defect common to the entire disk,  
and

the setting unit obtains recording performance for  
15 each predetermined area on the basis of the defect  
detection result by the defect detection unit, and sets  
an area inside an innermost one of areas that do not  
satisfy a predetermined recording performance level in  
all the recording areas of the disk as the actual  
20 recording area where information can actually be  
recorded.

5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
when the user information has already been recorded in  
an area other than the actual recording area of all the  
25 recording areas of the disk, the setting unit sets the  
disk as an unrecordable disk.

6. A disk processing method comprising:

detecting a defect of a disk; and  
setting an actual recording area, where  
information can actually be recorded, of all recording  
areas of the disk on the basis of a defect detection  
5 result.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein  
the defect is detected for each predetermined  
area, and

recording performance is obtained for each  
10 predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection  
result, and an area that satisfies a predetermined  
recording performance level in all the recording areas  
of the disk is set as the actual recording area where  
information can actually be recorded.

15 8. A method according to claim 6, wherein  
the defect is detected for each predetermined area  
corresponding to a radial distance, and

recording performance is obtained for each  
predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection  
20 result, and an area inside an innermost one of areas  
that do not satisfy the predetermined recording  
performance level in all the recording areas of the  
disk is set as the actual recording area where  
information can actually be recorded.

25 9. A method according to claim 6, wherein  
a first defect that changes for every radial  
distance is detected for each predetermined area

corresponding to a radial distance, and a second defect common to the entire disk is detected, and

recording performance is obtained for each predetermined area on the basis of the defect detection result, and an area inside an innermost one of areas that do not satisfy the predetermined recording performance level in all the recording areas of the disk is set as the actual recording area where information can actually be recorded.

10           10. A method according to claim 6, wherein when user information has already been recorded in an area other than the actual recording area of all the recording areas of the disk, the disk is set as an unrecordable disk.

15           11. An information recording medium comprising:  
a plurality of ring-shaped information recording areas having different radial distances,  
wherein on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, one or a plurality of  
20 predetermined information recording areas of the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where information can actually be recorded.

25           12. A medium according to claim 11, wherein recording performance for each information recording area is obtained on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, and one or a plurality of information recording areas which satisfy a

predetermined recording performance level in the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where information can actually be recorded.

13. A medium according to claim 11, wherein  
5 recording performance for each information recording area is obtained on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, and one or a plurality of information recording areas inside an innermost one of information recording areas that do not satisfy a  
10 predetermined recording performance level in the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where information can actually be recorded.

14. A medium according to claim 11, wherein  
a first defect caused by the radial distance is  
15 detected, and a second defect common to the entire medium is detected on the basis of defect inspection for each information recording area, and

on the basis of a defect detection result,  
recording performance for each information recording  
20 area is obtained, and one or a plurality of information recording areas inside an innermost one of information recording areas that do not satisfy a predetermined recording performance level in the information recording areas are set as actual recording areas where  
25 information can actually be recorded.

15. A medium according to claim 11, wherein when user information has already been recorded in one or a

plurality of information recording areas which do not correspond to the actual recording areas, the medium is set as an unrecordable medium.